

Mr. Chairman, I urge all of my colleagues to really look at this legislation. Study our fact sheets; read the dear colleague letters. Then really think about your constituents, and think about how our budget will better all of their lives.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on this amendment.

CONGRATULATING THE WORK OF
MASTER DISTILLER JIMMY BED-
FORD

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend and congratulate the life's work of Master Distiller Jimmy Bedford, the craftsman behind the smooth and distinct Jack Daniels whiskey that flows out of Lynchburg, Tennessee, every year.

For years, Jimmy studied his trade under the tutelage of one-time Master Distiller Frank Bobo. When Frank retired, Jimmy took the reigns of the milling, yeasting, fermentation, distillation, and charcoal mellowing of the long lived Jack Daniels recipe. For 20 years, Jimmy has safeguarded this Tennessee tradition in Lynchburg's quiet hollow as the sixth Master Distiller in Jack Daniels history.

Throughout Jimmy's tenure at the distillery, Jack Daniels has seen its yearly sales rise from under one million to nearly ten million cases in just forty years, with shipments going out to 135 countries around the world every year; but, no matter where people are drinking their whiskey, whether overseas, along the coasts or right in the heart of Tennessee, they know now, as they have for twenty years, that every bottle of Jack Daniels whiskey comes to them with Jimmy Bedford's approval.

This year, Jimmy will retire to his farm just two miles up the road from the distillery he served for so long. While it is sad to see him go, we can trust that Jimmy will leave this icon of Tennessee and American culture in the hands of an able and dedicated successor. Jimmy retires this month with our blessing, but it is my sincere hope that before he steps down we might impress upon him our gratitude for his stalwart preservation of this lasting Tennessee tradition.

HONORING MAYOR STAN
SCHAEFFER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of a great community leader and a great friend.

Mayor Stan Schaeffer of Collinsville, Illinois, passed away March 7, 2008, at his home in Collinsville. Like so many of Stan's constituents, I knew him in many different capacities: not only did he serve our city as mayor for the last 9 years, he was also a city councilman, a teacher for over 40 years, and a coach of many sports teams.

Stan was dedicated to seeing our community and our region move forward. His tenure as mayor will be remembered as one during which Collinsville grew in population and grew economically through business development, but one during which our town remained the caring, close-knit community it has always been.

Many individuals forget that all the basic services we require—local government, police, fire, sanitation, local roads—come from local government. Collinsville faced many challenges during Stan's tenure. His optimistic outlook and his calm spirit is a path that future leaders should follow.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Liz, his daughter Carrie, his stepdaughters Linda, Paula and Jami, his stepsons Timothy and Scott, his fifteen grandchildren, and all those who mourn this day for our friend Stan. He devoted his life to his family and his community, and he left a positive mark on both. He will be dearly missed by all of us who had the privilege to know him.

TEXAS STUDENTS' INTERVIEWS
OF VETERANS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last fall I invited high school students living in the Third Congressional District to join the Congressional Youth Advisory Council. The goal of the CYAC is to foster civic involvement and to encourage students to unleash their passions for America. Each meeting, they exceed my expectations and make me hopeful for the future.

The students who serve on the CYAC represent the best and the brightest in North Texas. Students are leaders, athletes, musicians, volunteers, and activists. They are the voice of their generation to Congress. They make a difference at each meeting and I'm proud of them.

For this year's community project, students interviewed a veteran and wrote essays. A summary of some of the submitted essays follows.

It is my hope that some day the Congressional Youth Advisory Council will be associated with excellence and one of our highest standards of civic pride for young people in North Texas. I commend the students for volunteering their time on the Congressional Youth Advisory Council. Without a doubt, every student will continue to play an important role in our community for decades to come, and that America and North Texas, will continue to benefit from their dedication, smarts, and service.

To the members of the 2007–2008 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. Thank you. I salute you; God bless you and God bless America.

My interview was conducted with Mr. Allen B. Clark. He served in the United States Army as a Military Intelligence Officer for the Fifth Special Forces. He was able to help many of the operations in Saigon and give life to a Special Forces unit started by him. Mr. Allen Clark gave me a perspective of one who risked his life and sacrificed himself for ideals that he believed in. Further-

more, he is the first person whom I have met that has ever faced such adversity and still succeeded in everything he has done. The adjustments he had to make in order to accommodate his prosthetic legs and his spiritual revolution attest to the integrity and strength of his character. Mr. Clark taught me that one who faces adversity never uses it as an excuse to fail, but rather as a motivation for succeeding. If one has a dream, then it is never out of reach even if the odds are against you. Standing firm for principle, guides one in life and gives him direction to make the choices that will allow him to be satisfied with life.—Nabeel Lockmanjee

For my veteran's interview, I interviewed my grandfather, Theodore Wade Falconer. My grandfather served in the Navy from September 1948 to September 1952 and worked up the ranks from Seaman Apprentice to 2nd Class Petty officer. Ted was born in Portland, Oregon on January 19, 1929, but grew up in Coos Bay, Oregon. He joined the Navy after high school for two reasons: one, he couldn't afford to go to college, and two, the Navy had an exceptional electrical technician program. After going through boot camp for 13 weeks, Ted was shipped off to Treasure Island, where he went to a Navy electrician training school. After 42 weeks of training, he was then shipped off to the Naval Communication Station on Guam, where he spent 16 months stationed there, while stating that it had been the best experience of his Navy career. After spending 16 months in a Pacific paradise, Ted was then shipped off to Hunter's Point in San Francisco to re-commission an old World War Two troop transport for active service in the Korean War. After six months of training, his commission was up and he was discharged from the Navy. His post military career was a successful one where he earned his masters degree and went to work for Texas Instruments for 33 years before retiring. After talking to my grandfather about his military experiences, I saw a living example of all the good virtues a person can possess; integrity, discipline, work ethic, and respect. My grandfather is a perfect example of these traits, focusing his actions based on these virtues. With this, I learned about not only his military experiences, but also how important it is to use these core values as he used them throughout his life. Anchors aweigh.—Joshua Womboldt

Veterans have done a service for our country with their selfless acts during the war, regardless of how large or small their sacrifice was. Charles Pearson made his life the best that he could, and was part of the crucial moment of the Japanese surrender in World War II. As 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps, Mr. Pearson was sent to Okinawa and fought the Japanese on the island for a lengthy period of time. After being sent to Guam to rebuild his division, Mr. Pearson and his men who survived the previous assignment were sent to Japan, just north of Tokyo Bay. Their mission was to verify the Japanese's surrender. Mr. Pearson and his men prepared for a possible attack from the enemy, even though an attack would result in a complete destruction of their ship. Bravely entering the enemy's territory, they were relieved that the Japanese had indeed surrendered. After the peace treaty was signed in 1945, Mr. Pearson was finally sent to China to help improve the economy and send the remaining Japanese back to Japan. In 1946, Mr. Pearson returned home. Since the war, Mr. Pearson has fulfilled his dreams by living a quiet and peaceful life on his family farm in Frisco, Texas.—Rena Sheng

Russell Friese was born in Alto-Pass, Illinois in 1915. After hearing many achievements about brave young men risking their lives for freedom, Mr. Friese decided to enlist and leave with the next shipment of